

Resort Village of Mistusinne

Council Meeting Highlights

Feb 15, 2024

Garett Kropf the new MLA for the Dakota - Arm River consistency attended to the office to introduce himself to council. He discussed strengths for this year including strong trade relationships. The focuses for 2025 include education and health. The revenue share numbers will be set with the provincial budget. He thanked council for their commitment to their community. Councilor Coutts advised Mr. Kropf that one of our largest challenges lately has been drought. With one of council's key focuses being tree planting and maintenance she asked him to have his office advise administration of any upcoming grant opportunities for this challenge and any other municipal opportunities.

Council approved the minutes of the January 25, 2025 regular meeting of council. These are available on our website. The next regular meeting will be held **Sunday, March 23, 2025** at 10:00 here at the Village Office. Items for the agenda must be received no later than 12:00 p.m. Friday, March 14, 2025.

Mayor Lloyd Montgomery reported on the discussions had with members of the Elbow Village Council last week regarding the annual agreement to provide 911 Fire Services. The agreement this year includes a call out fee that will need to be billed to back to the property owner of said fire. **PLEASE CHECK YOUR INSURANCE POLICY TO ENSURE YOU HAVE THE APPROPRIATE COVERAGE TO COVER THIS FEE.** Elbow council advised that all communities involved in this user agreement will be meeting in early spring to work on drafting a completely new agreement that follows a fair, equal and quantifiable formula for calculating user fees for each community. For the year 2025, the call out fee is \$975.00 per fire. AGAIN, PLEASE CHECK YOUR POLICY.

The Water Rate Bylaw we submitted to the Saskatchewan Municipal Board for approval has been approved. The water rate for irrigation water use will be going from \$60.00 to **\$100.00 per property this year**. The lagoon access fee that is paid to the Village of Elbow annually is \$216.00. Therefore, your annual fee invoice, this year will be for **\$316.00 vs the usual \$276.00**. These will be out the beginning of May.

Please be advised that council is drafting user agreements for each property advising that each property acknowledges that irrigation water is non-potable and cannot be tied to your cabin. Each cabin will need to sign and submit the appropriate paperwork. Cabin numbers of those who do not comply with the request for acknowledgment will be forwarded to the Water Security Agency for Inspection. Losing our irrigation water system due to non-compliance would be a significant loss to our community and council will do everything in their power to ensure this does not happen. This project will be moving forward during the on-season so please be prepared. Discuss with legal if you so desire.

We are ready to rent out the new Entertainment Complex, and the Gathering Place and Community Centre are also available for your functions. We will have picnic tables and a BBQ for use as well. We will only rent the Entertainment Complex or the Gathering Place out a single time. Once one of the community spaces is rented for a specific date the other cannot be rented. There is an updated policy, with new fees and a user agreement. These documents can be found on a new page on our site called "Community Spaces". Here you will find a calendar. Please review

the calendar for availability. Review Policy 4.0 Community Spaces entirely. Complete the user agreement located here online. Next you will email your application to office@mistusinne.com. Administration will review and approve if everything is in order and the complex is available. You will then be asked to pay a refundable deposit and the booking fees due as per the user agreement fee grid. You will need to make arrangements for access prior to the event with the office. We will then add your booking to the online calendar.

Our user agreement with the Village of Elbow for Lagoon access expires in 2028. Council will begin reaching out to the appropriate parties for discussions and planning.

Mistusinne's 45th Anniversary is in August. Council is busy planning for a celebration. First up a Cookbook. Send your favorite recipes to 1980cookbook@gmail.com.

NEW THIS YEAR – CLEAN UP DAYS!!

We shall be hosting a clean out your rubbish event. We will be running our garage sale days on the same day as Elbow does this year, and then the very next weekend we will host the clean-up event, Smart right? Last year Garage Sale Day was July 7 and that would make July 11-13 [Friday to Sunday] the clean-up event. We will confirm the date with the garage sale event organizers before we finalize our plans. Start planning for this event. **All rubbish can be placed into the open bins that will be on site. This will happen over at the maintenance yard and will be completely FREE to our residents. Please be advised that bringing the event local and planning to offer this event annually if all goes well and the community is in favor means that we will no longer be partnering with the Elbow Transfer Station. As part of this pilot project there will be no agreement this year. Residents will not be allowed to utilize the Elbow Transfer Station. Please plan to participate in Clean-Up Days!**

Councils permit for work to the beaches, shoreline and boat launch is up for renewal. We will once again asking permission to work in these areas and YES of course council, staff and contractors will be mindful of the piping plovers and other habitants of the area. This permits focus will include: ATV access for those needing a little extra assistant. A retaining wall to ensure that the sand we worked so hard to relocate stays put, and we will tackle the repairs needed at the boat launch. We will need to mud jack so we may relocate a few cement pads that the pesky wind so rudely moved in the fall. The dock also needed a few repairs [we lost a wheel] so those will be tackled in advance of the new season. The permit usually takes a few weeks to approve but that is okay as we have a permit in place until mid March.

Mayor Lloyd Montgomery will be attending the Annual SUMA Convention in Saskatoon in April. Here is where we get a lot of great ideas and tricks from that we often apply to our operations and wish list. You also get the opportunity to hear from the Cabinet Ministers and put bugs in their ears regarding topics that are important to our residents.

This year is a reassessment year for property assessment province wide. Every property owner will receive a copy of their new assessment values in the regular mail in the next week or so. Please review these carefully and if you have questions ask. Friendly reminder that the Saskatchewan Assessment Agency is responsible for providing these numbers not the Resort village. Therefore, you will be contacting their office. If there is a mistake they will advise you of the steps to correct. If you simply do not agree and wish to appeal you will complete the form on the back and submit to Western Municipal Consulting as per instructions on the form. There is a \$250.00 fee that must accompany all assessment appeals. You will have 60 days to review and

appeal if need be. This info will allow be included in the notice mailed out to you shortly. Please keep a watch out for the info in your post office box.

It is budget time! We have had our first round of discussions. Council looked at operating costs, wages, capital purchases and wish list items requested via the annual survey. Council is working towards the possibility of offering Disc Golf this year. We have had an incredible resident step forward to assist with the planning stage and his knowledge has been invaluable. We have also had a donation of \$1000.00 pledged towards the project. Thank you so much for your interest Mistusinne. Although the project is not yet approved, we have heard your request and we are working on it. Stay tuned! Administration and Operations is working on obtaining quotes for a few projects and we will present a second draft at the March meeting. Mistusinne Morning is a go Saturday, May 17 at 9:00 a.m. so mark your calendars and we will see you there!

New this year: Taxes and Fee invoices will be emailed out the beginning of May. If you pay by May 17 at 12:00 noon ONLINE via ETransfer to the correct email address in full, you will be entered to win ½ of your 2025 taxes back. ALL RECEIPTS will be automatically emailed from our new software module this year. No need to pick up. If you then attend Mistusinne morning and pick up your fancy swag bag with all the extras you will be entered to win the other ½ of your taxes back! DID YOU KNOW that the cost of that fancy Mistusinne bag we give you housing all the goods needed for the season, actually costs less than a stamp does! You don't have to keep the bag if you do not want to. We are happy to have them. If you want to keep though you can. ALSO NEW THIS YEAR 15% discount on Municipal taxes paid by May 31. There will be normal discounts the rest of the summer but the 15% is just from now until the end of May. Plan accordingly and save yourself some coin.

What kind of things bring you into the office? Maybe we can create some resources that allow you to access information or complete tasks without the office, maybe we can save you a trip in the heat. Let us know at administrator@mistusinne.com!

It is permit prep season. If you are building head to our website to the Bylaw & Policies page. On the left side half way down is our permit section. Read the info, complete the form and submit at least one week before the next meeting to the office. These things can be a bit tedious so please do not rush them. Building projects are stressful enough.

Kendra has been busy taking civic address training. We hope to wrap this project by the fall. If you do not have your civic address displayed on the street side, now is the time. The survey results are on our website under "What's New". This survey is one heck of a pile of work for our admin assistant. We truly appreciate her commitment to this project. We truly appreciate those who put real effort into their answers. We also really love the quick-witted answers as well. Even the answers that sting a bit help us in the long run so thank you for your participation. There were some great ideas this year and lots of suggestions are in the planning stages. Stay tuned. Council is very busy working on their various summer projects. Councilor Coutts will be looking for tree planters, and families to adopt the smiles. She is working on August long weekend entertainment plans and we are looking at a food truck for the event so bring your stomachs with you. The entertainment complex was her portfolio and what an undertaking that was. I am not sure if we ever thanked her for that, so thank you! Mayor Montgomery is taking on the Golf Tournament again this year. This tournament is organized by himself as a person this is not a Resort Village event. Thank you Lloyd! Councilor Glubis will be tackling Canada Day again and Councilor Moffat

is spearheading the Mistusinne Anniversary plans. Council Summers was not able to attend today so we will have to wait until March for his update.

The Bank rec for Jan 2025 was approved and the bills paid. We post the short version with the approved minutes but come on and in and look at the long version if you have questions. Jan is mainly annual fees to various organizations.

Council then tackled wages for 2025. Hourly employees received a 4% cost of living increase across the board. Our employees go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that your experience in the Village is the best it can be. I (administration) personally thanks them for all they do. Working in municipal government can be a thankless job and I am grateful everyday that they continue to come back from season to season. With the exception of Kendra who joined us a year later Administration and Operations personnel are all approaching their 5th season together. Even our summer student Garret Coutts keep coming back for more and he is sprinting into season 3 with the team.

This was a very information heavy meeting and the highlights reflect that accordingly. Council had a long day and I thank them for their commitments to the 2025 planning process and council. I also thank you the reader for committing your community and staying current. Thanks for staying with me this far.

If you have questions about anything you read, or anything you didn't, let me know. Despite the current temperature the warmer seasons are coming quickly.

Have a wonderful February everyone.

Kelly Dodd
Administrator